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THE
ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BOMBAY
Town Hall, Bombay.

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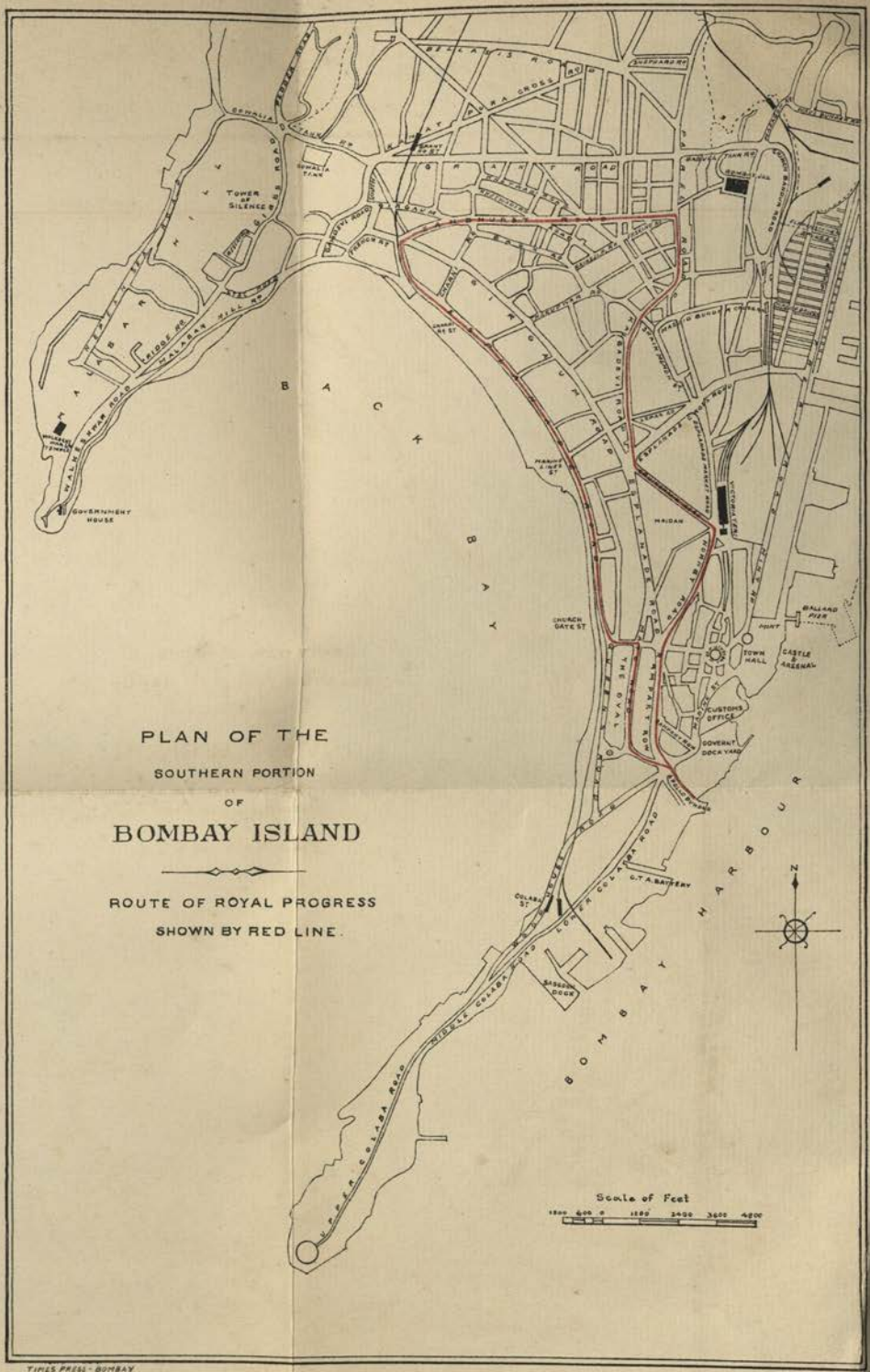


TIMES PRESS - BOMBAY

SOUVENIR OF

# *A Royal Progress*

PERFORMED BY

THEIR IMPERIAL MAJESTIES

## *The King-Emperor and Queen-Empress*

THROUGH THE CITY OF BOMBAY.

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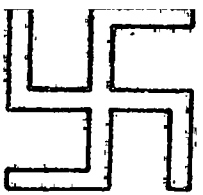


# SOUVENIR OF A ROYAL PROGRESS

## THROUGH THE CITY OF BOMBAY.

The Yacht Club.

# SOUVENIR OF A ROYAL PROGRESS

## THROUGH THE CITY OF BOMBAY.

FOR the last fifty years the Apollo Bandar (Pier) has been utilised as the place of arrival or departure of distinguished visitors; and it constitutes one very useful portion of the great reclamations which were carried out between 1860 and 1870, when some six million pounds sterling were expended in regulating and extending the foreshore of the island to below low-water mark. The large domed building on the left-hand as one steps ashore is the new Taj Mahal hotel: the more picturesque structure, which faces the harbour on the right-hand, is the Royal Bombay Yacht Club, the chief meeting-place of European society in Bombay. The Pier road ends at a handsome fountain erected in memory of the Duke of Wellington, who was resident in Bombay at the commencement of the 19th century. At the right-hand corner, facing the fountain, stands the Sailors' Home, the major portion of the cost of which was contributed by H. H. Khande Rao, Gaekwar of Baroda, in honour of the visit to India of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh. On the left-hand a

*Apollo Bandar and Esplanade Road.*

road runs to Colaba (*recte* Kolaba), the military head-quarters of the city, which was formerly composed of two small islands inhabited by Koli fishermen, the aboriginal colonists of Bombay. The wide open space on the right-hand, after leaving the Wellington fountain, is known as "The Crescent," and approximately forms the site of the outworks of the southernmost rampart and gate of the old Fort of Bombay. Facing it on the left is the Elphinstone College building erected in 1888 to take the place of the original college buildings at Parel, for which the late Sir Cowasji Jehangir Readymoney provided two lakhs of rupees.

Immediately beyond the College, at the northern junction of the main thoroughfare with the Crescent site, stands a bronze equestrian statue of His Majesty King Edward VII, erected during the Governorship of Sir Richard Temple by Sir Albert Sassoon, in memory of His Majesty's visit to Bombay in 1875. From this point commences the European business quarter of the city. The chief buildings of interest on the left side of the route are the University Convocation Hall, built by the late Sir Cowasji Jehangir, and the University Library surmounted by the Rajabai Clock Tower which was erected at a cost of four lakhs by Mr. Premchand Raichand, one of the leading native merchants of Bombay during the cotton and share mania of 1860-65. In a line with these buildings, but not properly visible from the road, are the Secretariat and High Court facing the western or Back Bay.

The Elphinstone College.

Equestrian Statue of King Edward VII.

The former was commenced at the instance, and during the Governorship, of Sir Bartle Frere; the latter was begun in 1871 and completed in 1878.

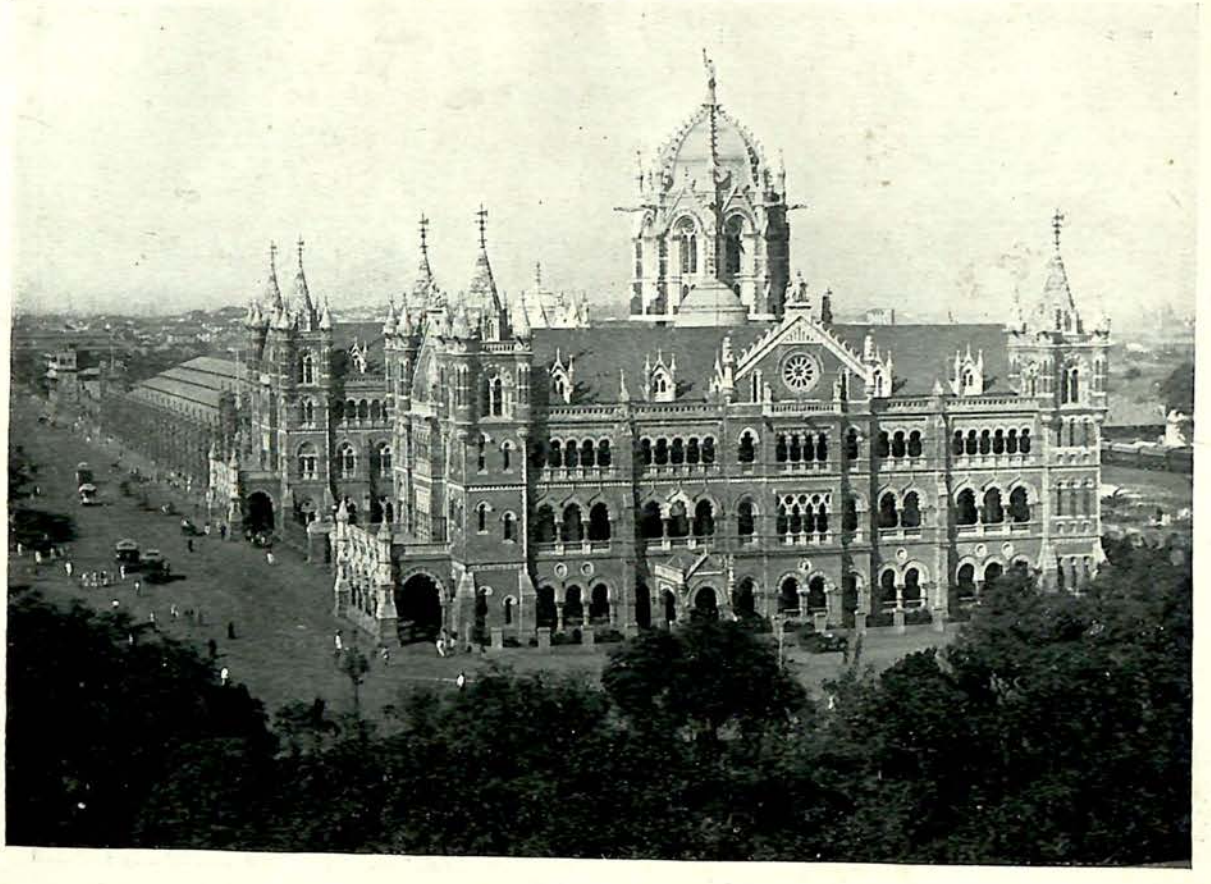
The route now leads through lines of shops and offices to a second fountain known as "The Floral Fountain," which marks the site of the old western gate of Bombay Fort, the "Church Gate," so called from its proximity to St. Thomas' Church, which was opened on Christmas Day, 1718, and was constituted a century later the Cathedral of the Diocese. On the left of the fountain, at either corner of the road leading to Back Bay, stand the Public Works Department Secretariat and the old General Post Office, both of which buildings were projected during Sir Bartle Frere's tenure of office, were commenced in 1869 and completed in 1872.

*Hornby Road.*

Bearing to the right past the fountain, Rampart Row merges into the thoroughfare named after Mr. William Hornby, who administered the affairs of Bombay at the close of the 18th century. On the right-hand, behind the front line of shops and offices, lies the original Parsi quarter of Bombay, in which that adventurous community first commenced to settle about 1675. The whole of the locality lay within the ramparts which approximately followed the line of the present Hornby Road. The road ends in a wide open space, embellished by a small garden, in front of which stands a statue of the late

Dr. Blaney, C.I.E., who for many years took a leading part in municipal administration. The garden marks the northernmost limit of the old Fort of Bombay, and occupies ground formerly devoted to the bastions and outworks of the great Bazar Gate. Dr. Blaney's statue directly faces the lofty domed offices of the Municipal Corporation, of which Lord Ripon, as Viceroy, laid the foundation-stone in 1884.

The very handsome building on the right, facing the Municipal Offices, is the Victoria Terminus of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, which forms the starting-point of the network of lines which now stretches across the continent of India. The station occupies the site of the original temple of the goddess Mumba or Mumbai, who is the patron deity of Bombay, and from whose name the word "Bombay" has been derived. Near the temple was a large tank known as the "Phansi Talao" or "Gibbet Pond," in allusion to the fact that malefactors of early days were here executed. The temple was removed to a more northerly site in 1766, in order to make room for fresh fortifications; but the gibbet stood here till 1805, when it was removed to the vicinity of the present Common Jail. The Great Indian Peninsula Railway, the first line opened in India, was projected in 1844; the first sod was turned in 1850, and the first twenty miles were opened for traffic in 1853, up to which date the carrying trade depended entirely upon bullock-carts and pack-ponies.



The Victoria Terminus.

The Municipal Offices.

*Cruickshank Road.*

The Municipal Offices, which guard the threshold of Cruickshank Road, were designed by the late Mr. F. W. Stevens, C.I.E., were commenced in 1889, and were finally completed in 1893 during the Commissionership of Mr. H. A. Acworth, I.C.S., who is chiefly remembered in Bombay for the opening of a well-conducted asylum for lepers in the northern portion of Bombay Island. The Hall of the Corporation on the first floor of the building contains busts of Queen Victoria and of several past Presidents and Municipal Commissioners. The next building on the right hand is the Esplanade Police Court, which was occupied for the first time in 1889 by the Chief and the Third Presidency Magistrates. A police-station and lock-up form part of the building, which took the place in 1889 of an unsuitable structure in Hornby Road. The expansion of the city during the last two decades has rendered the present structure insufficient for the requirements of both the Stipendiary Magistracy and the Police; and the Bombay Government are now contemplating the extension of the building to suit the demands of both Law and Justice. The Pestanji Hormasji Cama Hospital for Women and Children, which lies immediately north of the Police Court, originated in a movement commenced in 1882 to afford medical assistance to Indian women. The Bombay Government, at the instance of Mr. Sorabji Shapurji Bengali and others, granted the site for this institution, and in 1883 the foundation-stone of the building was laid by H. R. H.

the Duke of Connaught. The Hospital, to which are affiliated a charitable dispensary near the Crawford Markets and an obstetric hospital in the same compound, was opened in the middle of 1886, and has proved an immense boon to Indian women, who up to the date of its opening were almost wholly debarred from the benefits of Western medical science and treatment. Connected directly with this hospital is a training-school for nurses, who are drawn from the European, Hindu, Musalman and Jewish communities and who are in constant demand for service with Indian families.

North of the Cama Hospital lies the Elphinstone High School, which owes its name to one of the most famous Governors of the Presidency, and was originally founded in 1820 as a branch of the Bombay Education Society. Up to the year 1856 this school and the college of the same name were practically one institution, but were separated in that year in response to expanding educational requirements; and in 1872, through the munificence of Sir Albert Sassoon, Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, then Governor of the Presidency, was enabled to lay the foundation-stone of the present school building, which comprises in addition to class-rooms a fine play-ground and a covered area for recreation during the monsoon. The school buildings approximately cover the site of a very ancient Roman Catholic church, the most noteworthy parishioners of which during the very early

The Elphinstone High School.

The Times of India Office.

days of British rule were the Koli fishermen of the Fort and Mandvi. The last visible relic of this once famous church is a white cross which stands upon the *maidan* or parade-ground on the opposite side of Cruickshank Road.

The northern corner of Cruickshank Road, at its junction with Carnac Road, is occupied by another well-known educational institution,—St. Xavier's College, which was founded in 1868 with the object of educating the Roman Catholic youths of the Bombay Presidency and was affiliated to the Bombay University in the following year. For many years the college carried on its work without any extensive building of its own ; but the demand for increased accommodation became at length so insistent that in 1890 the present building was erected, comprising not only class-rooms and laboratories but also a hostel for students and residential quarters for the professors, who are nearly all Jesuit Fathers.

To the east of this line of buildings lie the "Times of India" Offices, the hall of the Anjuman-i-Islam, the chief Muhammadan institution of Bombay, the School of Art, and the Head Police Office, facing the now famous Arthur Crawford Markets. All these great educational, medical and judicial structures have arisen during the last fifty years upon an area which was rigorously reserved as waste common land so long as the old walls of the Fort remained and the military policy of the Hon'ble East

India Company demanded an unobstructed area between them and the Native city. To the student of history there is no more striking phenomenon than the rapid bridging of the area between the Company's stronghold and the homes of the Indian population by a series of philanthropic and educational institutions, when once the battlements of the ancient Fort had been demolished.

*Kalbadevi Road.*

Nearly opposite the college and in view of a lofty and ornamental lamp-post, the Kalbadevi Road branches away to the right. This road owes its name to the goddess Kali or Kalika, one of the oldest deities of India, whose shrine originally located in Mahim, the northernmost portion of Bombay Island, was during the 15th century removed to this neighbourhood. The Kalbadevi Road cuts through one of the oldest quarters of Bombay. On the left lies Cavel, the home of those aboriginal fishermen who were converted to Christianity by the Portuguese, and on the right is the quarter called Hanuman Lane, after one of the most popular deities of the lower-class Hindus. Some little distance along the road on the right hand is a temple of Vishnu-Narayana, built in 1875 by Mr. Mulji Jetha, a Hindu merchant, for the use of Gujarat Hindus. It has a curious facade adorned above with stereotyped figures of Hindu ascetics, and below with representations of various deities, of which the centre and most noticeable figure is the elephant-headed Ganpati.

The New Mosque at Pydhoni.

From this point the road winds forward to the Mumbadevi Tank (forming part of the present shrine of Mumba and hidden from the view of the passer-by by a high yellow wall), then passes a Jain temple on the left and some coppersmiths' shops on the right, and finally debouches into Pydhoni.

*Pydhoni.*

Pydhoni (literally "Foot-wash") owes its name to a small stream which originally flowed here, but which was first bridged and then filled up after the British occupation of the Island. On the right-hand side is the Police Station, which may be said to form the boundary mark between the chief Hindu and Musulman quarters of the city. In the Hindu-Muhammadan riots of 1893 Pydhoni was the centre of the *emeute*, and hither marched the main body of military and police, which eventually succeeded in restoring order. A few steps beyond the police-station on the right-hand side a small road leads to the Minar Mosque, which is about two centuries old. Its excessive whiteness makes it clearly distinguishable by those passing along the main route.

*Parel Road.*

At this point the route turns to the left into Parel Road, which runs due north towards the chief centre of the mill industry and the neighbourhood of the former residence of the Governors of Bombay. On the right hand, at the point where Parel Road begins, is a Jain temple of no great outward attractiveness, but credibly reported to contain vast quantities of jewellery and precious stones dedicated from

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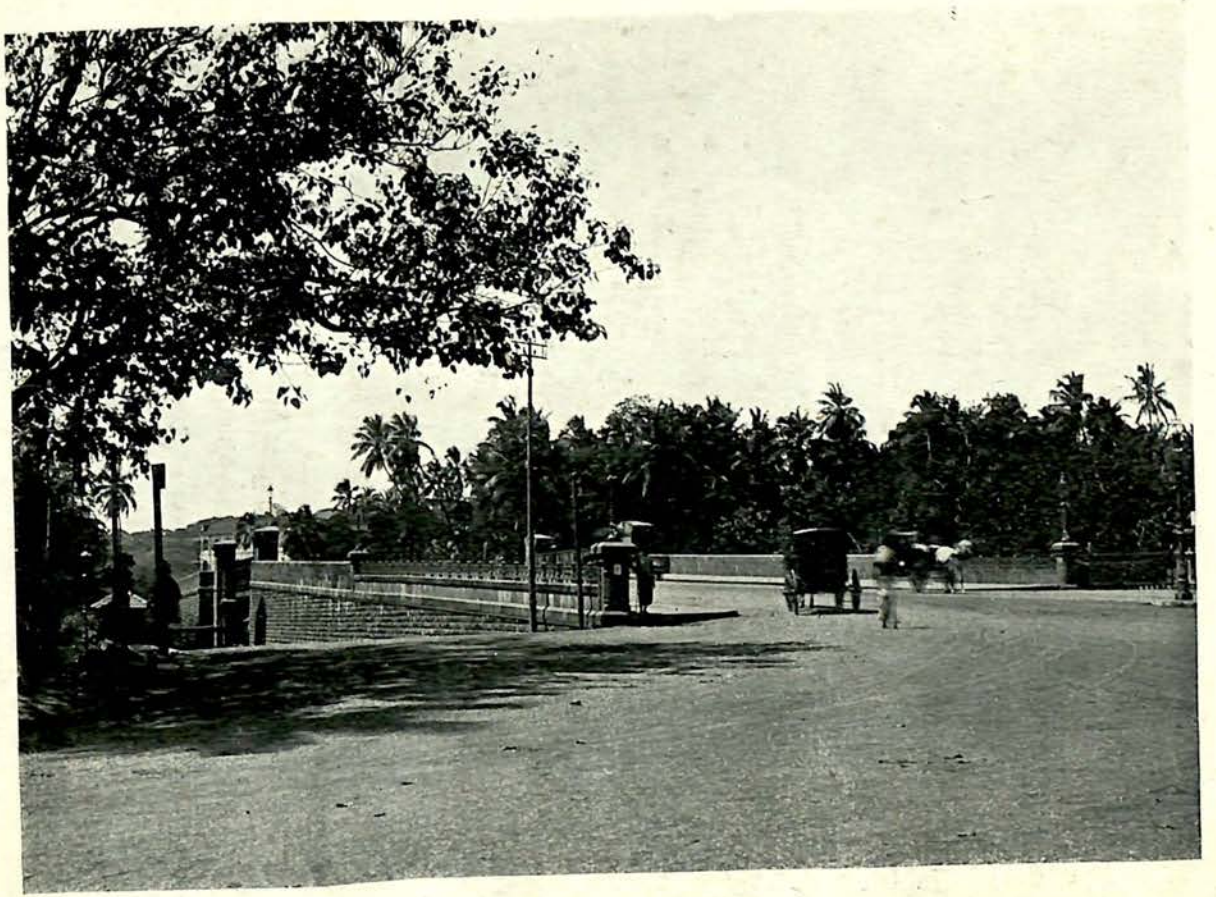
time to time to its deity. The white gateway higher up on the left leads into the Nawab's Mosque, belonging to the Shafai sect of Sunni Muhammadans; and on either side of the road are the shops of petty Musulman merchants, cloth-dealers, saddlers, booksellers and others. Some distance along on the right-hand side is the Jail Road, which, as its name implies, leads to the old Common Prison built by Governor Duncan in 1804. In the neighbourhood of the Jail Road live many Sidis or Africans, whose ancestors played so important a part in the early history of the Island.

*Sandhurst Road.*

Turning to the left off Parel Road the route enters the new Sandhurst Road, so called after the Governor of the Presidency who at the close of an administration overshadowed by the ravages of both famine and plague, directed all his efforts to the establishment of a City Improvement Trust charged with the duty of demolishing insanitary areas and driving broad thoroughfares through the heart of the city. The memory of the disastrous epidemics and the scarcity which characterized the closing years of the nineteenth century will in the fulness of time be forgotten; but the memory of the Governor who grappled with those evils will remain and will acquire fresh recognition as each insanitary area is reformed and as each new thoroughfare is completed by the agency which he brought with so much prescience into being. Sandhurst Road was gradually opened between 1909 and 1911. It runs straight across the



Sandhurst Bridge.

island of Bombay from west to east, taking the place of a thickly populated area which was for years the despair of the Municipal Health authorities. At a little distance from its junction with Parel Road it cuts through the Nal Bazaar area, so called from the fact that the old main drain or *nal* of the city once traversed this portion of the city. The road passes the southern end of the famous Doctor Street, which has been the scene of several affrays between the Sunni and Shia Muhammadans, and crossing Duncan Road, named after Mr. Jonathan Duncan, who was Governor of Bombay from 1795 to 1811; it skirts the low-class area of Kumbharwada and thence runs direct through Girgaum to Sandhurst Bridge and the foreshore of Back Bay. Though here and there the frontages are still vacant, a considerable amount of building has taken place during the last three years at the western end of Sandhurst Road, and there is every prospect of more taking place in the immediate future.

*Queen's Road.*

At Sandhurst Bridge the route turns south down Queen's Road. The new building on the right hand is the recently erected Opera House, and nearly opposite to it is one of the motor garages and workshops which have come into existence during recent years. The whole area on the left of the road is known as Girgaum or the hill-village and represents the original site of one of the scattered hamlets which formed the nucleus of modern Bombay. Opposite to

Charni Road Station on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway stands the Adamji Pirbhai Sanitarium for Bohras, which was built in 1885, and a little way beyond it is a new school for Parsi boys. The reclaimed area west of the railway line is occupied in succession by a public garden and the recreation grounds of the Parsi, Musalman and Hindu communities. Passing onward one arrives at Thakurdvar Road, so called from an old Vaishnava temple standing in this locality. The name signifying "Gate of the Lord" is commonly applied to Vaishnava temples in all parts of India. Further south, on the left of Queen's Road, stand the ancient burial and burning-grounds of the Island. Sonapur is the name of this locality. The English cemetery, which is no longer in use, was familiarly known in the early days of British dominion as "Padre Burrows' godown" (warehouse), Burrows being the name of the garrison chaplain of those days (1814). The walled enclosure at the junction of Queen's Road and Princess Street is the Hindu burning-ghat.

By the Hindu burning-ground the route enters Princess Street which was opened by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales in November 1905. This street, like Sandhurst Road, was constructed by the City Improvement Trust on the site of a rookery of ancient and insanitary dwelling-houses and is rapidly being converted into a respectable middle-class residential area. Thence the route passes through the

Dhobi Talao (or Washerman's Tank) quarter, so called from a reservoir which was a well-known feature of early days, and leaving on the right an important Parsi Agiari or Fire-temple, it debouches upon an open space, of which the most noteworthy feature is the Fitzgerald Lamp, so called from Sir Seymour Fitzgerald, who held the office of Governor of the Presidency from 1867 to 1872. On the right hand is a large and now disused tank and the Framji Cowasji Institute and Hall, and on the left the Carnac Road runs due eastward past the Gokuldas Tejpal Hospital, the Head Police Office, and the Arthur Crawford Markets to the dock area and the Port Trust Estate.

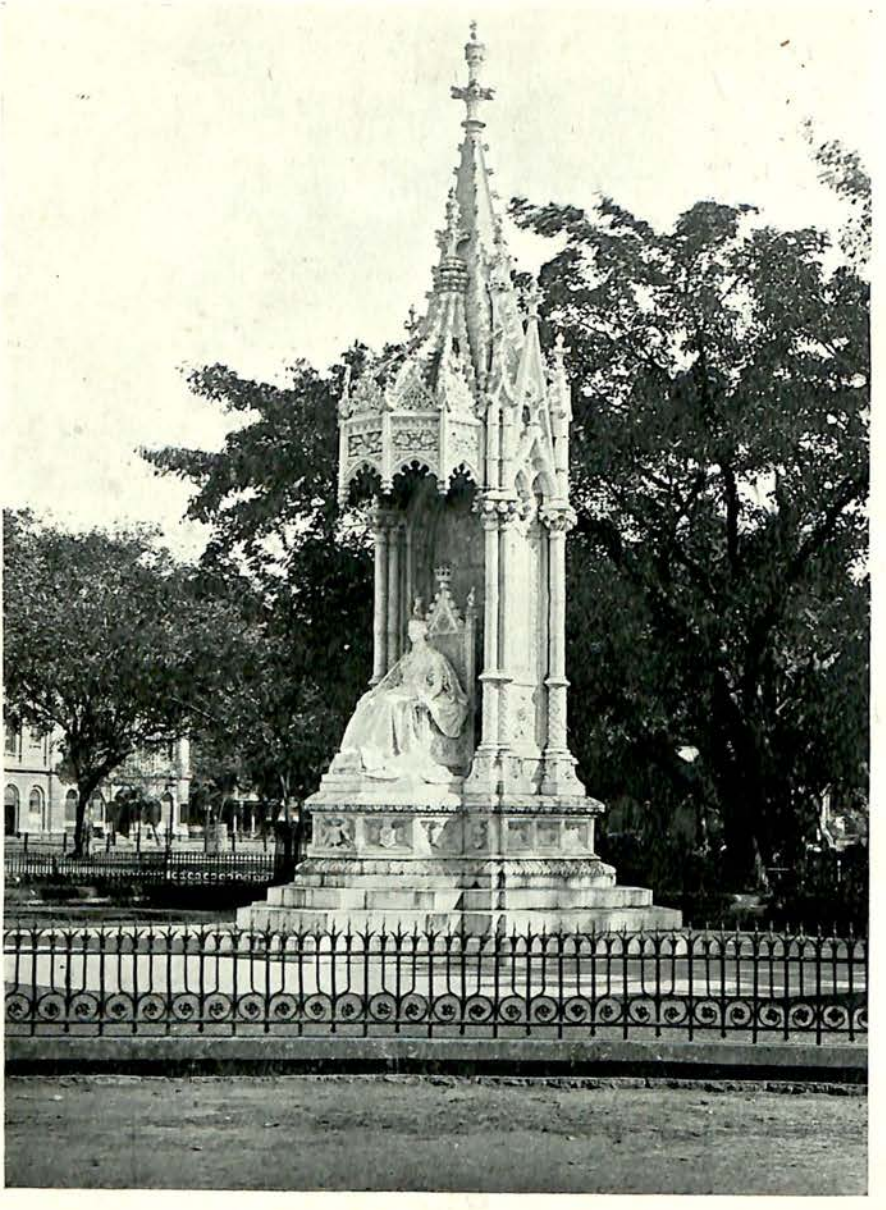
*Esplanade Road.*

The route now runs south down Esplanade Road. On the right hand, after leaving the Framji Cowasji Institute, are the lines and the parade ground of the Native Infantry Regiment which forms part of the Bombay Garrison. For many years these lines were the home of the old Marine Battalion, now known as the 121st Pioneers, which was first established in 1769 and adopted the title of the Marine Battalion in 1777. This regiment saw much service during the first half of the nineteenth century, being present at Benibu-Ali in 1821, in Burma in 1824, at Aden in 1839, and in the Panjab in 1849. The lines are at present occupied by the 96th Berar Infantry.

On the left hand opposite the military barracks and parade ground stretches the *maidan* or open ground, on which polo, football, cricket and golf are played under the auspices of the Bombay Gymkhana Club. At present this ground is devoted to a People's Fair, in honour of the Royal Visit, a portion of the area being occupied by a representation of the old Fort Walls and Gates of Bombay. The Bombay Gymkhana Club, which owns a spacious pavilion at the south end of the cricket ground, was instituted for the benefit of European residents in 1875, since which date both the Hindu, Musalman and Parsi communities have followed suit by instituting clubs for recreation on a portion of the Kennedy Seaface which stretches along the shores of Back Bay. Hidden by the Gymkhana pavilion and grounds is the family mansion of the late Mr. Jamsetji N. Tata, whose sons have recently developed the great Tata Hydro-Electric Scheme, which is designed to supply Bombay with electric power, and thereby incidentally to obviate the constant surcharging of the atmosphere with the smoke poured forth from the mill-chimneys in the north of the island.

*Mayo Road.*

At the junction of Esplanade Road and Mayo Road, down which the procession passes, stands the marble statue of the late Queen-Empress Victoria, which was presented to Bombay in 1872 by H. H. the Gaekwar of Baroda and unveiled by Lord Northbrook, the Viceroy, in the



The Queen's Statue.

same year. The statue, which is very finely chiselled, is eight feet high and is overhung by a canopy and Gothic gable rising to a height of 42 feet. During the unrest which followed upon the plague policy of Government in 1897 some miscreant seriously damaged the statue by pouring a bucket of tar and lime over it, which left almost indelible stains upon the marble. In consequence the statue had for a considerable period to be screened from the public gaze. It was at first proposed to affix a new head to the statue; but in the meantime Professor T. K. Gujjar experimented with chemicals and successfully cleansed the marble of all stains. The statue was again unveiled in November 1898.

The right side of Mayo Road is occupied by open ground, including the Oval, which is utilized chiefly as a recreation ground, its circumference being adorned with several fine statues, notably those of Sir Richard Temple, Lord Reay, Lord Sandhurst and Mr. Sorabji Shapurji Bengali, C.I.E. On the left side of the road stands a series of fine public buildings. After leaving the Queen's Statue, the first building is the Government Telegraph Office which was opened in 1874; and immediately south of it is the old General Post Office, which is now being relinquished in favour of a new building close to the Victoria Terminus of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company. South of the old Post Office stands the Public Works Department Secretariat, and next to this again the High Court, which was designed by

Colonel Fuller, R.E., and opened in 1879. Prior to that date justice was dispensed in the famous Hornby House, in Marine Street, which is known to modern residents as the Great Western Hotel.

South of the High Court lie the buildings of the Bombay University, consisting of the University Library surmounted by the Rajabai Clock Tower and the Senate-house or Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall. These buildings were opened in 1874. The cost of the Library and Tower was met by a donation of 4 lakhs of rupees from the late Mr. Premchand Raichand, who gave the amount in memory of his mother. Premchand Raichand was the most notable figure in Bombay during the historic Share Mania of the early 'sixties' and was popularly styled in those days "the uncrowned king of Bombay." The Tower rises to a height of 280 feet and contains on the fifth story the clock-dials and the carillon machinery, which plays sixteen tunes that change automatically four times a day. The Library contains busts of Sir George Birdwood, the Revd. Dr. John Wilson, after whom the well-known Wilson College at Chaupati is named, of James Gibbs, Henry Fawcett, and Sir Bartle Frere. It is to the initiative and prescience of Sir Bartle Frere (Governor of Bombay 1862-67) that Bombay owes this magnificent line of public buildings, projected during the period of the Share Mania, the

The High Court.

The Secretariat.

circumstances of which have not inaptly been compared with those of the South Sea Bubble in England.

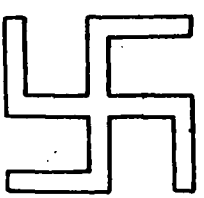
Beyond the University Buildings lies the Government Secretariat, which was commenced in 1867 and completed in 1874. This building supplanted the old Secretariat—a large house on the west side of Apollo Street which is now occupied by the offices of the Government Solicitor and private firms. A portion of the first floor of the present Secretariat is occupied by the Council Hall, Library and Committee rooms.

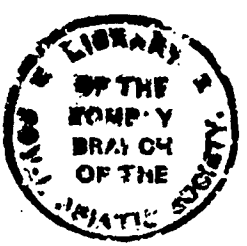
*Bandstand Road.*

After leaving the Secretariat the route turns to the left towards Apollo Bandar, the starting point of the Royal Progress. On the left are visible a portion of the Elphinstone College buildings and the College cricket ground upon which it is proposed to build a new Institute of Science. On the right stand serried ranks of storeyed buildings, which are occupied as "flats" mostly by Europeans and in lesser degree by Muhammadans and Parsis. These buildings have all risen during the last twelve or fifteen years, and testify not only to the increase of European residents, but also to the growing tendency of the better-class native population to leave their old family houses in the heart of the city and live in the European style.

So the route passes once again along the Apollo Bandar road, leaving on the left the Crescent site upon which the Prince of Wales' Museum of Western India is being erected. The foundation-stone of the Museum was laid by His Majesty King George V, as Prince of Wales, in 1905; and in a short time the Art and Archæological Sections will be completed and stocked with historical relics of vanished ages and dynasties, collected from the various districts of the Bombay Presidency.

Thus the Royal Progress of 1911 ends near the amphitheatre which the Bombay Government has specially erected to accommodate the hundreds of Bombay's citizens who have eagerly awaited the chance of witnessing an event of supreme political and historical importance—the arrival in India of their Majesties the King-Emperor and the Queen-Empress.





Sailors' Home.

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